

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

This application has been carefully reviewed in view of the above-referenced Office Action, and reconsideration is requested in view of the following remarks.

Regarding the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 3 and 8-10 were rejected for failure to provide proper antecedent basis. These claims have been amended to correct these minor errors. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Regarding the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 17-24 and 26-27 were rejected as anticipated by the Yokota reference of record. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection on the following grounds.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 17, each of these claims call for "a configurable processing array". The Office Action asserts that this claim feature is met by element 130 of Yokota. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Yokota that element 130 is a configurable processing array. In this context, the term "configurable processing array" is defined on page 4, first full paragraph, to mean "a circuit arrangement that can be configured to carry out any number of circuit functions." Yokota discloses only that element 130 is a "selector circuit" that is used to select one of m signals from the variable delay circuit 120 based on a selection signal from the decoder 160." (see, e.g., col. 1, lines 49-59 and col. 4, lines 20-30).

Thus, Yokota's selector circuit 130 serves only one purpose and carries out only one function, namely, selecting one of m signals from the variable delay circuit 120. There is no teaching or suggestion that circuit 130 can be configured or reconfigured to carry out any other circuit function, and thus, does not meet the claim feature of a configurable processing array. If the Examiner would like for the definition of a configurable processing array to be incorporated into the claim language, Applicant will be happy to make such amendment.

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However, in view of the explicit specification definition, no amendment is believed to be needed to distinguish over the cited art.

Also, claim 1 calls for a "variable length delay line having a number of active delay elements determined by a program command". There is no suggestion that the delay line 120 of Yokota has a delay line that is anything other than fixed in length. The length in Yokota is disclosed as "m" and there is a one-to-one correspondence between the number of delay elements of 120 and the number of AND gates of 130. Moreover, there is no teaching of any disabling or turning off of delay line delay elements in Yokota. Clearly, Yokota's delay line is of fixed length.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 17, and thus claims 1-4, 6-10 and 17-21 are believed to be clearly allowable. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection to claims independent claims 22-24 and 26-27, these claims have been cancelled without prejudice.

Regarding the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Regarding claim 5, the above remarks are equally applicable. In view of the noted shortcomings of the Yokota reference, there can be no *prima facie* obviousness of claim 5 for failure to consider each and every word of the claims (see MPEP 2143.03). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Regarding independent claim 11, this claim similarly calls for a "configurable processing array" and a "variable length delay line". Thus, the above remarks are equally applicable and there can be no *prima facie* obviousness of claim 5 for failure to consider each and every word of the claims (see MPEP 2143.03). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Regarding claims 25 and 28, these claims have been cancelled without prejudice.

Concluding Remarks

New claim 29 is presented for the Examiner's consideration. This claim contains features of claim 1 as well as several of the dependent claims and involves no new matter. Consideration of this claim is respectfully requested.

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The undersigned additionally notes that many other distinctions exist between the cited art and the claims. However, in view of the clear distinctions pointed out above, further discussion is believed to be unnecessary at this time. Failure to address each point raised in the Office Action should accordingly not be viewed as accession to the Examiner's position or an admission of any sort.

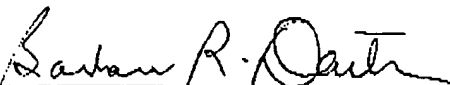
No amendment made herein was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim unless an argument has been made herein that such amendment has been made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

In view of this communication, all claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested at an early date. If further matters remain to be resolved, the undersigned respectfully requests the courtesy of an interview. The undersigned can be reached at the telephone number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account 502117, Motorola, Inc, with any fees which may be required in the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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